FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date April 10, 1968

Mr. GUY WARREN CANIPE, JR., 1078 Brower Road, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone number 324-0344, owner of Canipe Amusement Company, 424 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone number 525-0439, furnished the following information to Lt. J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and Special Agent FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:

He has been in business in the South Main Street area for the past twenty years. His store had been closed and unattended most of the day, April 4, 1968, he having been with Mr. EDWIN BODENHEIMER, 180 Clark Place, Memphis, one of his competitors and a close friend, during the day. He had left his store around 9:00 or 9:30 A.M. and did not return until after 5:00 P.M.

Soon after he returned, two Negro males came into his store and started looking at phonograph records on some shelves on the south side of the store near the front door. He had been playing records on a "jukebox" located toward the front of the store. He did not hear a shot or noise which he thought might be a shot anytime around 6:00 P.M. One of the Negro men was overheard by him subsequently to say that he, the customer, did hear a shot.

Sometime around 6:00 P.M. (although he has no way of fixing the time), he heard a "thud" in the vicinity of the front door of his store. He looked up to observe a bundle lying in front of the door to his store. He pointed out that the front door of his store is offset or located in a recess off the sidewalk. Almost simultaneously as he looked up after hearing this "thud," he saw a white man walking south on the sidewalk in front of his store.

After hesitating momentarily, Mr. CANIPE walked out onto the sidewalk, looking in both directions to see what happened to the man who obviously had dropped this bundle. As he did this, a white small car, possibly a compact, pulled away from the curb on the east side of Main Street at a point just south of his store. There was only one man in the car, namely the driver.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-Sub D

by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:jap Date dictated 4/9/68

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When Mr. CANIPE looked north on Main Street he saw a Deputy Sheriff walking rapidly on the sidewalk on the east side of Main, approaching Mr. CANIPE, this Deputy having his revolver drawn. Mr. CANIPE, concluding that something unusual had just occurred, immediately stepped back into his store. This Deputy proceeded south on the sidewalk past his store, not stopping. A short time later after other officers had arrived, he saw this same Deputy and talked to him. He does not know his name.

After additional officers arrived, their attention was called to the bundle lying to the front of CANIPE's store.

As to the contents of the bundle or package which he observed, he pointed out that it appeared to be a rather large pasteboard box about the size he would expect a shotgun or rifle to be shipped in. The top of this box was ajar and he observed a portion of a gun barrel. There was some type cloth over the top of this bundle, which cloth was green in color and which impressed him as possibly being a curtain of some kind. In observing this bundle he noticed that the pasteboard box had the word "Browning" on it. He also saw some type of suitcase or brief case underneath the cloth.

As to the parking situation in front of his store, Mr. CANIPE furnished the following information:

In front of his store on the east side of Main there are three parking spaces between a fire plug and a driveway south of his store. He usually is able to park in one of these spaces. However, when he arrived at his store after 5:00 P.M., April 4, 1968, all three of these spaces were filled and he had to park his 1962 red station wagon at a point south of the above mentioned driveway. He does not recall noticing the make and model of the three cars parked in these spaces, but he is certain that there was a white smaller car, possibly a Valiant or Comet, parked in the parking space nearest his door (which will be referred to as parking space number one). He does not recall the cars parked in spaces two and three south of this white car.

He is certain in his own mind that the white small car he saw pull away from the curb as he looked out of his door, as outlined above, was parked in either number two parking space or number three parking space, but he does not know which of these spaces this car was parked in. He cannot